

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 23 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#31/P

APPLICANT: James V. Young.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/176,866  
FILED: October 22, 1998  
EXAMINER: Demille, Danton D.  
DOCKET NO.: PHYS 6996  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3764  
FOR: MASSAGE APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703)872-9306) on July 23, 2004.



Nelson D. Nolte, Reg. No. 42,938

Other  
920-01

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 23, 2004  
St. Louis, Missouri

## AMENDMENT

RECEIVED  
2004 JUL 28 PM 3:02  
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

1. (Currently Amended) A massage apparatus for massaging a human body, comprising:

- a housing;
- a motor associated with said housing;
- a drive cable operatively connected to said motor;
- a massage head driven by said motor through said cable, said motor imparting mechanical oscillations to said massage head;
- an applicator removably mounted to said massage head for transferring the mechanical oscillations to the body, said applicator head further having a cavity formed in an end surface of the applicator for permitting skin to be drawn inwardly of the cavity, ~~the cavity being substantially the size of the end surface,~~ and a connection tube formed in said applicator, said tube communicating with said cavity, said connection tube capable of applying at least a partial vacuum to the cavity so as to draw and stretch fibrous tissue of the human body within the cavity, said connection tube being removable with said applicator and adapted to pass contaminants from the cavity, said applicator and connection tube being substantially free of any structure that would block the entry of the contaminants into the connection tube;
- a vacuum pump associated with said housing; and
- a connection between said vacuum pump and said applicator to impart at least ~~a~~ the partial vacuum in the cavity of the applicator so that placement of the head on a human body results in the application of a force combination of mechanical oscillation and suction, said connection including a suction line carried externally of said drive cable, said suction line having a first end operatively connected to said vacuum pump and a second end operatively attached to said connector tube, said connection tube drawing contaminants from the cavity through said connection tube.

2. (Original) A massage apparatus of claim 1 further including a speed control associated with said housing for controlling the speed of the motor.

3. (Currently Amended) The massage apparatus of claim 1 further including at least one collection ~~vile~~ vial operatively associated with the vacuum line for removing contaminants in the vacuum line.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 further including a second ~~vile~~ vial for collecting ~~air born containment's~~ airborne contaminants operatively associated in said vacuum line.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said vials ~~viles~~ are removably mounted to the apparatus.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including a control device to permit suction and vibration to be used independently of one another.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said applicator is removably mounted to said massage head.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said vacuum connection is attached to said applicator by quick connect device.

10-14. (Cancelled.)

15. (Presently Amended) A therapy massage device comprising:

a housing;

a motor mounted to the housing;

a vacuum pump mounted to the housing;

a drive cable operatively connected to the motor;

a massage head operatively driven by the cable;

an applicator removably mounted to the massage head, said applicator having a concave shaped cavity formed in an end surface of it, and a connection tube attached to said applicator head in operative communication with the cavity, said connection tube capable of applying at least a partial vacuum to the cavity so as to draw and stretch fibrous tissue within substantially the entire cavity, the cavity having a size about the size of the end surface, said applicator and connection tube having no structure that would block entry of the contaminants into the connection tube;

a vacuum line connected between the connection tube of the applicator and the vacuum pump, said vacuum line drawing contaminants from the cavity through said connection tube; and

a control system mounted to the housing which is selectively operated to provide suction and vibration to the body through the applicator head.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15 wherein said control system includes a control for varying the speed of the motor.

17. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 16 further including at least one filter operatively associated with the vacuum line 54.

18. (Original) The device of claim 17 wherein said filter is removably mounted from the device.

19. (Original) The device of claim 18 further including a second filter operatively associated with the vacuum line.

20. (Original) The device of claim 19 wherein said first and second filters are replaceable.

21. (New) A massage apparatus for massaging a human body comprising:

a housing;

a motor associated with said housing;

a drive cable operatively connected to said motor;

a massage head driven by said motor through said cable, said motor imparting mechanical oscillations to said massage head;

an applicator removably mounted to said massage head for transferring the mechanical oscillations to the body, said applicator further having a cavity formed in an end surface of the applicator for permitting skin to be drawn inwardly of the cavity and a connection tube formed in said applicator, said tube communicating with said cavity, said applicator and connection tube having no structure that would substantially block the entry of contaminants into the connection tube from said cavity;

a vacuum pump associated with said housing; and

a connection between said vacuum pump and said applicator to impart at least a partial vacuum in the cavity of the applicator so that placement of the head on a human body results in the application of a force combination of mechanical oscillation and suction, said connection including a suction line carried externally of said drive cable, said suction line having a first end operatively connected to said vacuum pump and a second end operatively attached to said connector tube.

---